

MY ODD UNCLE

By DWIGHT NORWOOD

My uncle's life had been blighted by an ill assorted marriage. In every other respect he was to be envied or would have been had it not been for his marriage. He was prosperous in business affairs and accumulated a fortune. But no children were born to him during the brief period of his marriage, and after his separation from his wife he never entered upon a second matrimonial adventure.

I was his only male relative, and after hesitating for some time between leaving his property in trust for a philanthropic work and leaving it to me he finally came to the conclusion to allow it to accumulate through my lifetime, I to establish the foundation that he intended. But this plan was contingent on my agreeing not to marry.

His proposition to me, if accepted, would give me every comfort and luxury so long as I lived, but would deprive me of wife and children. I did not agree with my uncle on the subject of matrimony because I knew that, though a splendid man, he must be a very hard man to get on with. He seemed to be fond of me, and if I wanted anything I had only to ask him for it. Yet I dared not oppose him in any of his prejudices. The difference between me and the wife from whom he separated was that I understood him and had the tact to manage him, while she failed in both these respects. My aunt was much younger than my uncle—she was but little my senior—and, being conscious of her inability to get on with him, came to rely on me to help her manage him when a deadlock came between them. I was born old and never given to acting upon impulse, while she was sensitive and had no faculty for going around a stone wall instead of over it.

My uncle's proposition—which ignored my aunt—placed me in the position of taking what belonged rightfully to her. In making my decision I was influenced far more by what was my duty to her than to carry out my uncle's intentions.

I accepted the condition, and my uncle made his will, leaving his property in trust to me, I to have so much of the income as I chose to appropriate to myself, but in consideration of this I gave my word to him that I would never marry, and the will stipulated that in case I did marry the property was to pass out of my hands and the foundation was to be established. Under this condition it would be practically impossible for me to marry, one of the reasons being that I would be obliged to drop from affluence to poverty, a very unpleasant fall.

Before acceding to my uncle's wishes I asked my aunt if she would disapprove of my doing so, and she told me that since she could not benefit by her husband's property she preferred that I should do so. However, before accepting the proposition I made bold to tell him plainly that his separation from his wife was principally his own fault, and that he was doing her a great injustice to leave her property, or, rather, its income, to me instead of to her. I expected that this would alter his determination, but was surprised that it had no effect whatever to deter him from his purpose. Indeed, it seemed to confirm him in it.

I did not promise not to turn over a part of the income from his estate to his wife. My privilege to do so would have satisfied me with the position I assumed had it not been that I was pledged to celibacy. Moreover, there was a woman whom I wished to marry. When the papers had been signed I informed my uncle of this fact, though I did not tell him who that woman was. He merely said, "You should thank me, my boy, for saving you from a life of misery."

Upon the completion of the agreement my uncle gave me the position of his right hand man that I might be prepared to manage his estate after his death. He was certainly a very queer man, and no one could tell what he would do. Two years after our compact he was taken suddenly ill. He called for me and said:

"I have been told by my doctor that I have but a few days at most to live. The approach of death has made a change in my feelings. It is a part of a new plan I have made that you should marry."

I looked at him in astonishment. When I had recovered from my surprise I said to him:

"If I marry there is but one woman in the world I will make my wife."

"You will marry the woman I intend you shall marry or I will make a new will, leaving you out in the cold."

He was very weak, and I knew there was no time to waste.

"Whom do you require that I shall marry?" I asked.

"The woman whose life I have made miserable."

My heart came up into my throat, but I controlled any expression of my emotion.

"Have you obtained her consent?"

"Yes."

"Very well, I will not stand in the way of your doing this last act of justice."

I have always been balanced between two opinions as to the prime motive of my uncle's act. Either he was so perverse that he wished to marry me to a woman I did not love, thus separating me from one I did love, or he had observed the love that had sprung up between me and the woman he had put away. But to do him justice I believe he was repentant toward her.

THE GREENSBOROS

GREENSBORO

Miss Edith Kibbey of Bellows Falls is visiting friends in town.

Myron Kinney started for Ohio Thursday for a short vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Cassevah are entertaining friends from Nashua, N. H.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Willey are visiting Mr. Willey's father at Derby Center.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Gebbie are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Eldridge at Orleans.

A nine-ound son came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lapierre Aug. 6th. Congratulations.

Fred Hinds and daughter and Mrs. Willard of Wolcott were business visitors at D. G. Spier's Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Philbrooks went to East Hardwick Thursday to attend the funeral of little Clara Russell.

George Hazelton and son, Hugh, of Hyde Park and Mrs. Henry Hazelton of Stannard visited at George Allen's Thursday.

Misses Mildred and Alida Fairbanks entertained Miss Marion Messier of Montpelier, Miss Anna Root of Craftsbury, Miss Alice Speir and Miss Marjorie Hall at their home Thursday.

GREENSBORO BEND

Mildred Fuller of Stannard is working for Mrs. J. B. Silver.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McDowell of Brownington are spending a few days at D. W. Hall's.

Rev. A. D. Simpson and family are in Johnson where they are attending the campmeeting.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Pope and daughter Hazel, are spending a week in New York with sight-seeing.

Ethel McGill and Marguerite Esdon of Passumpsic are spending a few days with their aunt, Mrs. Mary Weed.

Mr. and Mrs. Warner Graham of Bellows Falls were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. Graham's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Batten were called to East Hardwick Tuesday to attend the funeral of Mrs. Batten's niece, Clara Russell.

Mrs. Will McDonald took her sons, Earl and Ronald to St. Johnsbury Tuesday, where they were operated on for adenoids.

Edgar Barr and two children and Mrs. Nelson Barr of Taunton, Mass., are visiting at F. A. Amsden's for a few weeks.

The family of W. R. Cole, who were injured in an auto accident on Sunday, August 1, near P. N. Allen's when their machine tipped over, are all doing as well as could be expected.

APHORISMS ON COURAGE.

The soul, secured in her existence, smiles on the drawn dagger and defies its point.—Addison.

Where life is more terrible than death it is then the truest valor to dare to live.—Sir Thomas Browne.

The charm of the best courages is that they are inventions, inspirations, flashes of genius.—Emerson.

Courage is, on all hands, considered as an essential of high character.—Froude.

"Be bold!" first gate; "Be bold, be bold and evermore be bold!" second gate; "Be not too bold!" third gate.—Inscription on the gates of Busyrane.

HAIR GOODS SALE



\$1.95

I have made arrangements with the Glemby Co. for another consignment of Hair Goods. Just call at store or at booth in Floral Hall, Fair Grounds and see the beautiful hair goods. Will sell for those days only at Floral Hall. The same grade switches for \$1.95 that were sold at store for 10 days. Call and examine.

Mrs. C. L. Hutchins

DAVIS BLOCK,

BARTON, VT.

Off In Price

This week we name a few articles on which the price is lower:

Fine Granulated Sugar in 10 and 25 lb. bags.

Pure Lard in bulk and pails.

Compound Lard in bulk and pails.

Heavy back Salt Pork.

New Potatoes.

New Yellow Globe Onions.

We offer a lot

Scott Tissue Paper Towels

in rolls of 150 towels
11x15 inches at

25c roll

THE E. W. BARRON CO.

Opposite Passenger Depot

BARTON, - VERMONT

Everyone Will Be Looking

for

Bargains

During the Week of Barton Fair



Many people will be in town this week. At this season we need the money more than the goods. We are accordingly offering some especially good trades. These are not old or useless goods but just what everyone needs every day. Note these prices:

Rogers' Knives and Forks, per dozen	\$2.49	Butter Knives or Sugar Shells,	25c to 50c each
Rogers' Teaspoons, per dozen	1.38	Fruit Knives, one-half dozen	75c to 1.25
Rogers' Dessert Spoons, per pair	.50	Child's Table Set	50c to 3.00
Rogers' Table Spoons, per pair	.60	Napkin Rings	25c to 4.00

WATCH SPECIALS

FOR THE LADIES

7 jewel movement in handsome engraved or plain polished case for monogram, warranted a good timekeeper, regular \$7.50, now **\$4.49**

A Watch often sold for \$12.00 to 15.00, guaranteed 20-year case, plain polished or engraved, regular \$10.00, now **\$6.98**

This one is especially good: Fully guaranteed, in extra fine hunting case, engraved or plain polished for monogram, fully worth the regular \$12.00, now **\$7.95**

O-size high grade Waltham in beautiful hunting case, extra fine, guaranteed 20 years, regular \$15.00, now **\$9.15**

If you want a better Watch note this: Extra high grade Waltham, solid 14k gold case, a watch that will last a lifetime, regular \$20.00, now **\$14.98**

FOR THE GENTLEMEN

Guaranteed Waltham, a fine timekeeper, in 20-year guaranteed case, a very special bargain, regular \$10.00, now **\$6.98**

Here's another: 17-jewel Waltham in 20-year gold filled case which may be engraved or plain polished for monogram, well worth the \$16.00 now **\$9.29**

Or this: 16-size watch, 17-jewel movement of extra quality, is guaranteed 20-year gold filled cases (engraved or plain) regular \$18.00, now **\$12.35**

If none of these suit ask to see our odd lot Watches. These are all good watches and worth \$5 to \$10. We can sell them just now **\$3.00 to 6.00**

A Nice \$6.00 Parlor Clock for \$3.50 Others at Special Prices

We are agents for the Celebrated Victor and Edison Talking Machines and Phonographs. Hear them. We also expect to have for demonstration one of Edison's Diamond Disc machines, his latest and most wonderful invention.

For those desiring an inexpensive outfit we have several slightly used machines at less than half price. We sell for cash or on the easy payment plan.

We have over 20,000 choice Postal Cards of every description which we are determined to close out and shall sell them for 5c to 10c per dozen during the fair.

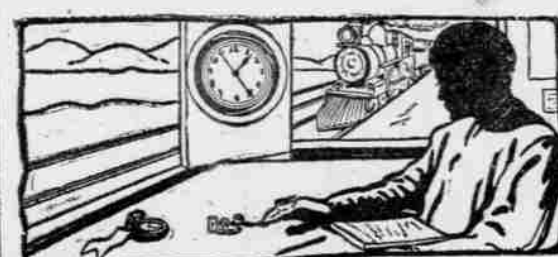
Cut Prices on Umbrellas

Suit Case Umbrellas, regular \$2.25 for **\$1.50**

Regular \$1.50 for **1.00**

Nice \$5.00 Silk Umbrellas for **3.00**

All these have detachable handle.



REGARDING OUR REPAIR DEPARTMENT

We have done work for you for so long that possibly further advertising may seem unnecessary but lest some of our friends forget we beg to remind you that this has been our legitimate business for thirty years. Personally we spent time and money to thoroughly learn our business graduating at the Bradley Horological (Watchmaking) and Optical College, now located at Peoria, Illinois. Since finishing our trade we have had some of the finest workmen in our employ that the country affords among them E. D. Bickford a man of Waltham. C. L. Hutchins commenced work for us several years ago while Mr. Bickford was in our employ. Mr. Hutchins was determined to become an expert watchmaker and engraver and by hard work and study in our store under Mr. Bickford and finally by taking a course in the Waltham school of watchmaking where he has graduated with honors, he too, has become an expert watchmaker. Watches given into our care are not bungled or carelessly handled. We do whatever is to be done in a thorough and workmanlike manner making the broken parts as good as new. Our cleaning process is the same as is used in the Waltham factory. We do not boast that we can clean your watch and thoroughly regulate it in thirty minutes or put in a balance staff in fifteen minutes, and any sensible person knows this to be impossible. We do guarantee you first-class work in every case and prompt painstaking service. We thank you for past favors and shall greatly appreciate your continued patronage.

Our Optical Department

is in full charge of Mr. Lang, who has prescribed glasses for over 11,000 satisfied patrons in this county and Barre and Montpelier. We use the very latest and most approved lenses made, including the celebrated Kryptocks, for both far and nearby work. We guarantee perfect satisfaction in every case. Our charges are very reasonable.



Lang's Jewelry Store

BARTON,

VERMONT

THE MONITOR PRINTS

MOST COUNTY NEWS

MORAL: Take the Monitor